

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
February 7, 2014

The City Commission and City staff were saddened by the resignation of Commissioner Richard Miller on January 27. Mr. Miller served as a City Commissioner from October 2005 until January 2014. Mr. Miller has moved out of the City and is no longer eligible to serve on the Commission. Thanks to Mr. Miller for his years of service and best wishes to him and his family in the future. Per the City Charter, the City Commission will appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy until the general election in November.

Dates to Remember:

February 13, 2014	City Commission Workshop
February 17, 2014	City Commission Meeting
February 20, 2014	Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting – 12 noon

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- The Clewiston Community Redevelopment Advisory Board met on Tuesday, February 4th to discuss a number of potential projects and goals. They also set a meeting schedule for the remainder of 2014 as the first Tuesday of April, July and October.
- There is a code enforcement violation for property maintenance against the 550 South Lopez Street apartment building which is currently accruing a daily fine. The owners have started making the improvements, which include electrical, wood repair and painting.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- The Hendry County Library system was featured in this week's Clewiston News, receiving a check for over \$30,000. Outdated computers in all three libraries will be replaced with brand new ones. The Library wishes to thank the Hendry County EDC's Task Force and the U.S. Sugar Corp. for their generosity to the Hendry County Libraries.
- The new copier has been installed in the Library and is being used by our customers. Some have expressed gratitude, saying they much prefer this system, because they no longer have to share their private information with Library staff who did the copying before this new machine arrived.
- Hendry County Libraries staff development morning went off with a bang Wednesday February 5, 2014. This was the county's first ever staff training program for the Harlem, LaBelle, and Clewiston staff. It was well received by staff who said they really enjoyed the presentations and hope there will be other training opportunities.
- The Clewiston Library volunteer appreciation luncheon in honor of our wonderful volunteers is coming up on February 18, 2014.

- The residents of Clewiston are invited to “Movie and Hot Dog night” at the Library on February 17, 2014. The movie, *The Butler*, will be showcased to mark African American History month. With Forest Whitaker as the butler, the movie features stars such as Robin Williams as Dwight Eisenhower, John Cusack as Richard Nixon, Alan Rickman as Ronald Reagan, James Marsden as John F. Kennedy, Liev Schreiber as Lyndon B. Johnson, and many more. The month will be closed out with a second movie, *The Help*, on February 24, 2014.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- We have moved people and schedules around this week in order to most efficiently accommodate the FLW Tournament with the minimum amount of overtime.
- The heavy patrol presence in alleys and parking lots at night has created an increase in the number of arrests for narcotics and warrants.
- Nick Williams, Lucy Quionnes, and Fernando Hernandez are all scheduled to hit the streets as patrol officers this week pending background investigations. Carolina Tellez also started this week as a Dispatcher. We have now trimmed the number of certified officers from 20 to 17, and intend to remain at this number for the foreseeable future. We are operating communications with only four dispatchers.
- Our 800 MHZ base station and portable radios have been delivered. We are awaiting a letter of approval from the Sheriff in order to program them to the same frequency.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week’s activity:
 - 986** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 535** Complaints Investigated
 - 30** Arrests Made
 - 22** Traffic Citations
 - 20** Red Light Camera Violations
 - 71** Merchant Escorts
 - 1** City Ordinance Violation
 - 17** Alarms Responded To
 - 6** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control Activity: Met with Clarke Environmental on Tuesday and discussed this weekend’s FLW event and requested trapping on Wednesday night to get an idea of mosquito activity. They will be in town this weekend to treat if needed.
- Paving projects: Local contractor has been contacted to submit a quote for the repair of water line repairs.
- Street Maintenance: (1) Staff worked on irrigation on US27 this week and replaced nine (9) palms with a fresh layer of red mulch to follow. (2) Staff patched several pot holes that showed up after recent rains. Please call the office at 983-1471 to report a pot hole so it can be repaired as soon as possible. (3) Staff assisted the water crew with a major water break in the alley behind Main Street Subs on Tuesday. (4) The unimproved driveway apron list has been completed and a letter to those residents affected is being prepared to inform them of the requirement and time line to have a paved driveway apron.

- Facility Maintenance: (1) The work on the fuel island and tank is continuing. Several layers of rust have been discovered and is being addressed. (2) Work on the Golf Course tournament score board began this week. (3) The first conceptual design for the new boat basin sign was delivered to the City Manager on Tuesday.
- Drainage Project on Haiti: All culvert and inlets have been installed and driveway aprons are under construction. The survey crew has laid out the swales and depths. This project is moving along smoothly and on schedule.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- Work nears completion on the batting cages on field #8 at Sugarland Sports Complex. We expect sod to be delivered and set this week and the hitting mat supports finished and installed as well. Thanks to all the departments that have assisted in this project and Rayburn Companies and Basquin Welding for all their help.
- CHS Softball will play their “Home Opener” against Glades Day on Tues. Feb. 11th at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. on field #8 at the Big Quad.
- CHS Baseball will play their “Home Opener” on Thurs. Feb. 11th against Glades Day at 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Stalls Field (Field #1).
- Work on Stalls Field “bullpen mounds” and renovation/repairs will begin next week.
- The soccer fields have been broken down and the goals, benches and nets have been cleaned and put in storage. The U-12, U-14 & U-16 fields will be aerated next week and repairs to the goalie boxes will begin.
- Clewiston Recreation Baseball & Softball “skills demonstrations” were completed last week and the drafts have begun and will be completed next week. There are over 420 youth participating in this year’s baseball & softball season.
- Please contact the Youth Center at (863) 983-1492, “LIKE” us on Facebook or visit www.clewistonrecreation.com for all your recreational needs and information.

Utilities Department Director Williams reports:

- The Water/Sewer crew repaired several main breaks this week in addition to painting backflows, lift stations and hydrants.
- Utilities Director Williams and Lead Lineman Mike Cox met with Peek Inc. again this week to discuss new traffic light boxes for US 27.
- The Electric crew has resumed work on San Luiz and this project is nearing completion.
- The Electric crew repaired an underground electric line on Ridgewood Avenue.